

Message Text

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15

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AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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ANCONSUL ADANA 5703

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SUBJ: COMMENTARY ON TURKISH-GREEK RELATIONS AND US-TURKEY DCA

1. PRIMIN DEMIREL DISCUSSU GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS AND ALLEGED AMERICAN "GUARANTEES" OF GREECE WITH A TURKISH NEWS AGENCY REPORTED APRIL 25. DEMIREL SAID THAT HE DID NOT RPT NOT BELIEVE THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER GAVE GUARANTEES TO GREECE IN RELATION TO CYPRUS OR THE AEGEAN. HE SAID, " NO AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE COULD GIVE SUCH A GUARANTEE TO ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY, AND EVEN IF SUCH A GUARANTEE WAS GIVEN, IT COULD NOT BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY."

2. DEMIREL LABELLED THE US-TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION

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AGREEMENT (DCA) AS " VERY IMPORTANT" TO BOTH COUNTRIES AND

PREDICTED THAT IT WILL BE APPROVED BY THE TURKISH PARLIAMENT. HE NOTED THAT IF THE DCA WERE NOT APPROVED BY EITHER THE US CONGRESS OR THE TURKISH PARLIAMENT, " A BIG VACUUM WILL APPEAR IN THE SOUTHEASTERN WING OF NATO."

3. ASKED IF THE PROBLEMS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY COULD LEAD TO WAR, DEMIREL RESPONDED, " WE WANT PEACE. WE NEVER WANT WAR AS LONG AS OUR RIGHTS ARE NOT DISREGARDED. WE DID NOT CREATE THE PROBLEMS. IF THE PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE CROPPED UP BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE ARE EXAMINED, IT WILL BE SEEN THAT NONE OF THEM WAS CREATED BY TURKEY. THE CYPRUS QUESTION AND THE MILITARIZATION OF THE AEGEAN ISLANDS WERE NOT CREATED BY US. THE LAUSANNE TREATY AND PARIS AGREEMENTS PROHIBIT MILITARIZATION OF THE AEGEAN ISLANDS. THEY CREATED THE FLIGHT INFORMATION REGION (FIR) DISPUTE. WE WERE NOT THE ONES WHO SAID THAT THE AEGEAN WAS OUR OWN LAKE.

AS I SAID, WE WANT PEACE, BUT WE SHALL ALSO PROTECT OUR RIGHTS."

4. DEMIREL'S STATEMENT WAS IN APPARENT RESPONSE TO CRITICISMS RAISED BY REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY DEPSECEN HASAN ESAT ISIK (MINDEFENSE IN THE ECEVIT GOVERNEMENT), WHO CHARGED APRIL 23 THAT " IN ORDER TO HIDE HIS FAILURES IN FOREIGN POLICY FROM THE PUBLIC, DEMIREL JUMPS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY THAT APPEARS, WITHOUT CONSIDERING WHETHER OR NOT IT IS VALID. THIS DESCRIPTION OF CARAMANLIS' NON-AGGRESSION PACT PROPOSAL AS 'CONSTRUCTIVE' IS A TRAGIC EXAMPLE OF THIS. IT APPEARS THAT NO ONE ELSE AGREES WITH HIM IN THIS DIAGNOSIS. THAT IS WHAT IS INDICATED BY A DEPPRIMIN'S AND JUSTICE PARTY DEPUTIES STATEMENT," (SEE BELOW). ISIK ALSO SAID THAT, "AFTER THE EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND GREEK FONMINS, THE TURKISH-AMERICAN MILITARY COOPERATION AGREEMENT HAS BECOME ALL THE MORE INSIGNIFICANT. IT IS APPARENT THAT THE USG IS NOT TAKING THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT SERIOUSLY. WHAT ELSE IS PROVED BY THE FACT THAT IT DID NOT FEEL THE NECESSITY OF REACHING A PRIOR AGREEMENT WITH THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT ON THE LETTERS EXCHANGED WITH GREECE OR AT LEAST GIVE PRIOR INFORMATION ABOUT THEM TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT?"

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5. THE DEPPRIMMIN TO WHOM ISIK REFERRED IS NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY LEADER ERBAKAN, WHO HAD STATED APRIL 18 THAT AS "FIRST CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE," THE TURK-CYPRIOTS MUST HAVE SELF-GOVERNMENT AND SEPARATE DEFENSE, FINANCE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. HE ALSO DEMANDED THAT GREECE MUST GIVE UP DEMANDS FOR TERRITORIAL CHANGES IN CYPRUS, DISBAND ITS FORTIFICATIONS IN THE DODECANESE AND STOP THE " CRUEL TREATMENT METEDOUT TO THE

TURKISH MOSLEM PEOPLE OF WESTERN THRACE." THE JUSTICE
PARTY DEPUTY MENTIONED BY ISIK IS ORHAN OGUZ, WHO WARNED
APRIL 22 THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE "CAREFUL" ABOUT
THE CARAMANLIS NON-AGGRESSION PACT PROPOSAL, WHICH HE
LABELLED A " POLITICAL TRAP."
MACOMBER

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